



COLORADO CROP PROGRESS

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
COLORADO FIELD OFFICE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION
WEEK ENDING AUGUST 26, 2018

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Producers made significant harvest gains last week amidst warm weather and isolated precipitation, according to the Mountain Region Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Several crops were noted to be progressing a little ahead of the average and last year. Limited seeding of winter wheat also began last week in a few counties. Some northwestern counties received needed moisture last week. A reporter noted the precipitation was enough to keep producers from haying in areas. In northeastern and east central counties, harvest of several crops picked up due to dry weather last week. In areas that haven’t received hail, crop conditions were noted to be above average. A reporter mentioned dryland crop and pasture conditions in drier areas remained a concern for producers. Livestock were reportedly doing well and some producers began pre-conditioning programs on cattle for weaning. In southwestern counties, monsoonal moisture flow was not as productive as expected and there was no relief from exceptional drought conditions. In the San Luis Valley, barley harvest continued with only mild interruptions due to scattered storms. Potato harvest moved forward slightly last week with most vines killed. Additionally, a reporter noted production from natural hay meadows was significantly below average, and pasture and rangelands also remained very short. In southeastern counties, reporters noted that scattered showers improved pasture and range as well as crop conditions. Received moisture reportedly delayed haying last week. Statewide, stored feed supplies were rated 4 percent very short, 21 percent short, 71 percent adequate, and 4 percent surplus. Sheep death loss was 2 percent heavy, 60 percent average, and 38 percent light. Cattle death loss was 66 percent average and 34 percent light.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alfalfa hay				
3 rd cutting harvested	56	41	52	47
4 th cutting harvested	1	NA	NA	NA
Barley				
Harvested	77	52	53	53
Corn				
Doughed.....	78	64	61	71
Dented.....	25	8	14	27
Mature.....	1	NA	--	--
Harvested for silage	16	6	4	5
Dry edible beans				
Blooming	97	92	NA	NA
Cut	28	20	1	4
Harvested	1	NA	NA	NA
Onions				
Harvested	19	10	11	10
Potatoes inside San Luis Valley				
Harvested	7	4	1	2
Potatoes outside San Luis Valley				
Harvested	23	12	15	20
Sorghum				
Headed.....	91	85	89	82
Turning color	37	17	24	30
Spring wheat				
Turning color	95	90	96	95
Harvested	57	42	26	38
Winter wheat				
Planted	1	NA	--	1

NA – not available
(--) – zero

DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
Days suitable for fieldwork.....	6.7	6.3	6.8	6.2
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	11	11	1	9
Short.....	26	24	14	28
Adequate	61	62	80	60
Surplus.....	2	3	5	3
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	17	17	1	13
Short.....	25	25	17	27
Adequate	56	56	80	59
Surplus.....	2	2	2	1

NA – not available
(--) – zero

CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION				
Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alfalfa hay				
Very poor	8	8	2	3
Poor.....	17	15	10	8
Fair.....	26	26	30	26
Good	41	42	53	51
Excellent	8	9	5	12
Corn				
Very poor	3	3	--	3
Poor.....	11	16	6	6
Fair.....	20	24	21	22
Good	57	50	62	56
Excellent	9	7	11	13
Dry edible beans				
Very poor	11	12	--	1
Poor.....	23	22	3	4
Fair.....	31	32	21	30
Good	30	28	74	57
Excellent	5	6	2	8
Onions				
Very poor	7	3	--	1
Poor.....	9	2	3	4
Fair.....	16	18	34	20
Good	62	67	56	62
Excellent	6	10	7	13
Pasture and range				
Very poor	26	28	--	7
Poor.....	24	24	10	16
Fair.....	23	27	24	26
Good	24	19	54	43
Excellent	3	2	12	8
Potatoes inside San Luis Valley				
Very poor	--	--	--	NA
Poor.....	1	4	8	NA
Fair.....	8	9	13	NA
Good	69	66	56	NA
Excellent	22	21	23	NA
Potatoes outside San Luis Valley				
Very poor	2	2	--	NA
Poor.....	3	3	--	NA
Fair.....	13	13	7	NA
Good	59	59	86	NA
Excellent	23	23	7	NA
Sorghum				
Very poor	4	4	6	5
Poor.....	14	17	7	11
Fair.....	26	31	13	31
Good	53	46	65	49
Excellent	3	2	9	4
Spring wheat				
Very poor	11	9	--	3
Poor.....	2	2	5	5
Fair.....	16	18	25	28
Good	62	61	66	59
Excellent	9	10	4	5
Sugarbeets				
Very poor	1	1	1	--
Poor.....	2	3	1	2
Fair.....	33	25	9	14
Good	44	49	81	70
Excellent	20	22	8	14
Sunflowers				
Very poor	1	1	1	4
Poor.....	4	6	2	9
Fair.....	26	28	16	28
Good	64	61	73	51
Excellent	5	4	8	8
Livestock				
Very poor	2	2	--	1
Poor.....	2	3	2	2
Fair.....	18	21	14	19
Good	68	63	77	69
Excellent	10	11	7	9

NA – not available

(--) – zero